GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1616
ANSWERED ON:03.08.2005
SETTING UP OF TASK FORCE ON MEDICAL EDUCATION
Adsul Shri Anandrao Vithoba;Singh Shri Ganesh;Verma Shri Ravi Prakash

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a dearth of specialists in Community Health Centres(CHCs) ;

(b) if so, whether the Government has set up a task force to look into rural postings and continuing medical education;

(c) if so, the facts thereof; and

(d) the time by which the said task force will submit its report?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE (SMT. PANABAKA LAKSHMI)

(a) Yes, Sir. There is a shortage of Specialists in the Community Health Centres (CHCs). There are 3222 CHCs functioning in the country as on September, 2004. There are 3953 Specialists in position against the sanctioned strength of 7061.

(b) to (d) In order to address the shortage of specialists a Task Group was constituted recently. The Task Group discussed, inter alia, issues, concerning availability of doctors in rural areas, delays in recruitment, lack of basic amenities and incentives for working in the rural areas. The Task Group has submitted its recommendations. A one day Consultative Meeting was held, on 6.7.2005, with representatives of professional medical bodies, who expressed their views on Continuing Medical Education.